Commercial Advertiser

WALTER G. SMITH, EDITOR. MONDAY : : : : APRIL 10

THE RUSSIAN DILEMMA

Some months before the announcement of the war in the Orient, the Advertiser, discussing the probable out- clares that he was regularly tried by and navy should at least temporarily to death for his crimes, and that he, turn out, owing to the corruption in Sasaneff, was merely the executioner. in organization and equipment as the this remarkable paper, which the hard French army during the Russo-Franco sense of the American people will war; secondly, that the severity of the speedily detect. The basis of American contest would probably be augmented institutions is individualism which, by internal commotion in Russia; and, rightly understood, leads to the most thirdly, that these difficulties would be effective altruism. It is, however, diffiaggravated by the long distance of the cult for citizens living in a country, seat of hostilities from the real Mus- of which freedom, law and order concovite base and the inadequate means stitute the solid foundation, to comof transportation on the Siberian rail- prehend the state of a nation virtually road.

ipations have been more than realized. The history of the war embraces an almost unbroken series of Japanese victories. On both sides, great brave-'ry and consummate generalship have been manifested. But to Japan belongs the credit of having, with marvelous strategy and with the greatest tactical skill, carried on the most stupendous international conflict of modern times, and single battles which perhaps transcend the world's records. The seas were speedily cleared, and the comparatively short line of communication with the Japanese base opened and kept open. Korea was fully occupied. The Liaotong Peninsula was seized, Kuropatkin held back, Port Arthur isolated and captured, and then the vast army of Russia was slowly pushed toward the north and Manchuria practically reduced to possession.

These are notable achievements, but, are a united people. Within fifty enthusiasm, partly due to their religion, but in a large degree attributable to their intellectual advancement. With all their inflexible resolution and almost reckless courage, they have observed the amenities of war.

It is a natural result that a Japanese loan of 150 millions is over-subscribed fifteen times. On the other hand the credit of Russia lags. Capital is sensitive and the capacity to raise money is the test of national power and standing. In these respects, a comparison between the belligerents in the East is decidedly odorous, although Russia has a much larger population and more aggregate wealth than Japan.

Of course it is barely possible that when, if at all, the Baltic fleet of fortyseven vessels encounters Togo, there may be a reversal of the previous record of the war, although, while a naval Russian prestige and might entail important practical consequences, it fect the occupation of Manchuria, Rus- lie back, expecting Providence to do mestic troubles that must seriously affect her position. The most autocrata Reign of Terror.

the throne of the Czar. He gives the propriation of opportunities, but citizens of their country." He into at least temporary petrifaction. insists that the massacres of the Jews side the law."

argument, fortified by facts, is that plify its charge to the jury, and the the Russian Government, however long | practice of taking the instructions as it has existed is itself a usurpation and a solecism among the nations, sustained only by brutal methods, and that the people, represented by the Socialistic Party, has a right to antagonize its persecution and to meet force by force. He disclaims any personal feeling against Plehve, and decome, suggested: First, that it would the Fighting Organization, on the call not be surprising if the Russian army of the Socialistic party, and sentenced

the Russian Empire, to be as defective | There is an element of sophistry in deprived of essential rights and sub-So far all these hypothetical antic- jected to intolerable cruelties. Whatever else may be said of it, the paper is a revelation of conditions that are ominous and that obstruct the Czar in the further prosecution of the war. In the Russian social and political organization, there is a seething and only partially concealed volcano, which, like the crater of Mauna Loa, may at any time burst into activity.

Looking to the past and taking all the facts into consideration, the signs favor Japan and at the same time indicate that there will be modifications at least in Russian policy and perhaps in the structure of the government itself. In these days, no autocrat can expect to retain absolute and unchallenged authority.

CONDITIONS OF PROGRESS.

If this world had been so constructed that individual energy was unnecessary, the human race would long extraordinary as they are, they can since have become extinct. It is not be easily understood. The Japanese difficult to imagine such a condition. Suppose gold, instead of its distribuyears, in their internal economy and tion in quartz or gravel, had been laid external relations, they have identified up in accessible heaps, so that every themselves with progressive civiliza- man could have helped himself. If tion. They are not only intelligent but there had been any use for the prealso systematically educated and train- cious metal, it would have become a ed. They have availed themselves of drug. Suppose all crops had sown, their opportunities and resources, with- harvested and distributed themselves, out a serious mistake. They are prac- so that every human being would have tical to the fullest possible extent, but been supplied without effort. Sup- preparing for their appeals to the votlikewise inspired by an overwhelming pose animals, through some invisible law, had slaughtered, divided and cooked themselves and the only duty of hungry mouths had been receptive. Suppose clothes, adapted to any climate and temperature and changing with the seasons, had shaped themselves upon the human back, sides and limbs. Suppose armies and navies had a purely automatic existence. Suppose the means of transportation were selfgenerated and met the listless wants of travelers without even the necessity of motion on their part. Suppose life in all its phases had consisted merely of the act of breathing, itself without effort, and the very conception of labor and struggle were non-existent, Under any and all of these illustrative assumptions, where would humanity have been in this year of grace?

The failures in life are the men and women who await conditions, without victory would do much to rehabilitate personal exertion, and who practically aim to exist in such a world as has been briefly suggested. To these drones would not necessarily and at once af- in the incessant whirl of progress, who sia, however, is confronted with do- their work, inertness is the supreme law. Their incessant cry is that, when all the conditions essential to success government on earth, to a con- have been produced by the Presiding siderable extent, is isolated and is Intelligence of the universe, they will struggling against the most intelligent allow themselves to be propelled in and best educated classes of the popu- that direction. It never occurs to them lation, animated by the concentrated that, in the order of creation and adpurpose of compelling the partial in- vancement, they are to be the direct troduction of constitutional govern- instrumentalities in their own achievement. The series of assassinations ments, under that Providence which that have occurred since the outbreak has established laws and principles of hostilities have almost introduced that, when strenuously employed, insure the development of character and Sasaneff, who killed Minister Von the accomplishment of definite pur-Plehve has written and the Associat- poses. They never realize that the ed Press has supplied copies of, one most beneficent provision in the Code of the most striking papers of Modern of the Almighty is that which preditimes, which graphically describes the cates all realization of the perpetual smouldering fire that is burning under struggle with obstacles and the ap-

history of his own life and of the And as with individuals, so with processes of observation, experience communities. Lazy indifference and and thought which made him first a inertness are the supreme obstacles to Socialist and afterward a member of development. The activities of the the fighting organization of that party, modern and civilized world are intense He shows how deeply and widely th | and at once concentrated, diffused and kind of Socialism which he represents systematized. Let them be brought has penetrated the mass of the Rus- into actual contact with isolated and sian people. His claim is that the So- stagnant populations, and fertilization cialistic party aims at a revolution of and prosperity inevitably follow. But, government through peaceful if repelled by the unreceptive stolidity methods, and that its members are op- of a people sunk in a Rip Van Winkle posed to all brute force and simply sleep, they flow onwards on either side desire to become "not only subjects and allow somnolence to be converted

The awakening process is usually at Kishenev and in other places and slow and hard to endure and, like the specific cruelties of Plehve-which every great change in the modes of he enumerates as having culminated life, is attended by pain and difficulin "a procession of twenty-eight cof- ty. But it is the order of Providence fins in the streets, an unlimited num- that those who are plunged into torpor ber of wounded and two files of sol- shall be aroused at length and drawn diers"-fully justified his act, and he into the tumultuous vortex of aspiring adds; "The Government made me a civilization. This is the process, revolutionist. It declared me to be out. through which Hawaii is now slowly passing. Its advancement, however, tor Foraker's wishes, "We are treated," he says, "like toward complete Americanization is hunted and beaten animals. For this exhibiting signs of increased vitality this year will not have the choosing of or less a party contest, and probably reason we have bared our teeth and and of more complete identification taken to arms," however, he goes be- with the Twentieth Century.

youd this declaration. The gist of his | "It is the duty of the court to simand from them formulating a general charge embracing all the matters of law arising upon the pleadings, and evidence, is always to be commended. because in this way the points in issue may be sufficiently declared and clearly presented to the jury, without unnecessary repetitions.'

This judicial dictum is part of the syllabus of the first case reported in Vol. 133 of the Federal Reporter, being a decision of the Circuit Court of Appeals of the Ninth Circuit (Pacific Coast States), presided over by Justice McKenna of the U.S. Supreme Court. The mode of instructing a jury commended as above would be a good rule for our Territorial courts to adopt. After the juries are charged with law requested by counsel on both sides, colored to the limit, in addition to the court's standard instruccions, loaded with the indictment and the statute of the case, it is a wonder if most of the evidence-the main thing is not crowded out of the jury's

THE YEAR'S MAIL AND POLITICAL CAMPAIGNS

(Continued from page 1.)

Maryland is so closely divided between Republicans and Democrats that the campaign promises to be a hot one from start to finish. Democrats have generally been successful in Maryland State elections in recent years, and it is the prevalent opinion that they will win this year, but it will be no walkover. The effect of the adoption of a constitutional amendment, eliminating the ignorant negro vote, would be to make the State surely Democratic for the present. But the ultimate effect will undoubtedly be to strengthen the Republican party by encouraging a more respectable element to affiliate with it, as the case has been in other Southern States.

The Virginia campaign will be almost entirely within Democratic lines. It will be confined largely to the Democratic primaries for nominations, which will be held, probably, along in August or September. At these primaries Democratic nominees for governor, lieutenant-governor, members of the Legislature and various other offices will be named; also a Democratic nominee for United States Senator, who will take his seat March 4, 1907, two years from now. The struggle for those nominations, especially those for governora nd senator, will be as spirited as any in the history of the State. It has already begun, for the candidates have announced themselves and are ers. From a national standpoint, the interest centers in the senatorship. Two ator Thomas S. Martin, as efficient a senator as Virginia ever had, is seeking a third term. He is opposed by Gov. Andrew J. Montague, as capable a governor as the Old Dominion ever

elected, young, eloquent and aggressive. The Virginia Republicans count on making things interesting before election time. There has been a realignment of the party recently. The federal offices have been turned over to a new organization, headed by Col. Campbell Slemp, the only Republican Representative in the National House from that State. Col. Slemp and his lieutenants argue that there is a chance for the Republicans to elect a governor. It is generally agreed that that is a very optimistic view, but the counting of the vote will be interesting as far as it demonstrates what strength the Virginia Republicans can show as a white man's party.

NEW ENGLAND ELECTIONS. There are two State elections in New England that will have some national interest, Massachusetts and Rhode Island being the only two States that now elect a governor and legislature annually. Rhode Island has come to be a very close State politically. The Republicans redeemed it last November, but elected their governor only by a handful of votes. The efforts over the election of a governor this fall will certainly be of a most strenuous charac-Massachusetts, normally Republican, has a Democratic governor, W. L. Douglas, something of a national figure for the handy way he secured a Democratic majority of 56,000 at a Republican landslide election. If he can climb the hill for another term, he may loom into, importance in Democratic politics outside of Massachusetts.

Southerners begin their campaigns very early; these two New England States do not start till very late. Massachusetts generally defers her nominating conventions till early in October, and probably little will be heard about Massachusetts polities till along late in September. It is not certain that local issues will be discussed exclusively, either in Rhode Island or Massachusetts, as will be the case in Maryland and Virginia. Tariff revision is a burning theme up there and will crop out to some extent in the fulminations from

Although Ohio went Republican last November by the enormous plurality o 255,421 votes, the State is approaching very interesting gubernatorial campaign this year. No one cares yet to say whether the demoralized Democracy can pull itself together before next November. Whatever opportunity it has comes from the dissension in Re- He seeks re-election and is opposed by publican ranks and the apparent determination to renominate Gov. Myron T. Herrick. He has incurred the open hostility of influential Republican elements, and were it not for the big Republican majorities Ohio has been givno there might be a reasonable chance of defeating him. But Ohio campaigns to fight for his laurels against a young are always hard fought, and the one this year will be no exception. The faction. fact that Senator Foraker, who heads one of the Republican factions in Ohio. dential nomination, will directly or indirectly make the Buckeve struggle of Chicago is soon to vote for a mayor and more than passing national interest. the contest is being waged along party The regular Ohio organization, which lines to a considerable extent. A may- fin Pans recognized the late Senator Hanna as oralty election in New York city alits head, is not cordial toward Senator ways proves more absorbing to the Foraker and intends, apparently, to re- country than many State elections. That nominate Gov. Herrick against Sena- will hold true this fall, without doubt,

a United States Senator, but just to the more or less uncertain up to the day south, in Kentucky, a Legislature will of voting. be elected that will name a successor

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to Senator J. S. C. Blackburn. The fight there will be a Democratic fight. Senator Blackburn is already buckling on his armor and will make a grand tour of the State, speaking in every county. Gov. J. C. W. Beckham. There is almost a complete parallel between the Democratic senatorial contests in Virginia and Kentucky this year. In each case a Democratic senator, seeking reelection, is a veteran in legislation, experienced and competent, while he has governor, who heads a strong opposing

There will be other minor State elections, but probably none of more than be conspicuous to some extent in 1905. for Mayor McClellan's successor will be The Legislature to be elected in Ohio chosen in November. It will be more

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